



spring  
2003



SPRING IS HERE AND THE GARDENERS ARE READY. CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO THE NEW MSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS FROM BOTH THE FALL 2002 AND THE SPRING 2003 PROGRAM. THERE ARE MANY EXCITING AND INTERESTING PROJECTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS YEAR. FIND ENCLOSED A SPECTACULAR LIST OF MASTER GARDENER GARDEN WALKS.

SEE BELOW INFORMATION ABOUT TRAVEL TOURS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES. SEE THE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES PAGES FOR SOME CURRENT VOLUNTEER REQUESTS, BUT KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS IS A SHORT LIST. COME TO THE OFFICE FOR A LOOK AT THE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY NOTE BOOKS FOR SOME TIME ON THE HOTLINE, FARMERS MARKET, AND OTHER INFO BOOTH OPPORTUNITIES. CALL KIM AND SANDRA TO GET DIRECTED TO VOLUNTEER PROJECTS THAT NEED YOUR HELP.

STOP IN AND SAY HELLO.

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MACOMB MSUE HORTICULTURAL TRAVEL TOURS  
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MSU Extension Travel Tours have been designed to actively explore and test the ideas and assumptions presented in the Master Gardener classroom learning. Participants will be guided by experts through learning experiences as they explore beautifully designed gardens, research facilities, production nurseries and greenhouses.  
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This year we have three (3) day trips planned --- Downriver Gardens May 22, Battle Creek Gardens July 1, and Downtown Lansing and MSU Gardens July 24. (flyers will be mailed directly to all active MG's). Our overnight trip this year is the "Grand Gardens of the Chicago Area" August 24, 25, 26 2003 and what a garden variety we have put together for that tour! Master Gardeners earn educational hours for these tours which will be announced on each trip. In addition to our Master Gardener mailing we will be advertising the tours locally so don't delay - get your reservations in early.  
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We were saddened by the sudden and unexpected death of Beverly Deman on January 16, 2003. Beverly was an active Master Gardener Volunteer since 1999. Over the years she has volunteered with the Let's Go Gardening project, worked in the office and manned the hotline, given many hours of hands-on help at her church, the Bikepath project and at the Farmers Market. With her gentle nature she touched many hearts.



Kathy Gerritsen became a Master Gardener in 1997. She shared her love of gardening with children in her Brownie troop and helped establish an outdoor classroom and butterfly garden at her local elementary school. Kathy passed away this past April after a long battle with cancer. She was a very creative person who always looked at challenges with enthusiasm and a youthful innocence. May she enjoy her garden in heaven.

We are presently encouraging donations in their memory towards the Remembrance Gardens here at the MSU Extension Demonstration Gardens. Call Sandra at (586)469-6440 for more information.

# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## **2003 MSU Extension Master Gardener**

### **Summer Conference**

June 23 – 25, at Michigan State University

Only active, certified Master Gardeners will be receiving the conference registration information directly from the state office. The mailing list has been completed. Hopefully you are on it!

## **2003 International Master Gardener Conference**

June 18 through 21, 2003

Greater Cincinnati in the Ohio River Valley

Holly Shimizu, Kurt Bluemel, Katy Moss Warner, Carole Ottesen, Tracy DiSabato-Aust and Felder Rushing are just a few of the gardening celebrities who will be participating in this gathering of Master Gardeners from across the U.S. and Canada. The conference will offer 74 educational sessions and workshops, 10 half-day tours showcasing public and private gardens and much more. The conference comes every other year and since it will be held by our southern neighbors, I hope many of you will attend.

Registration runs about \$350 not including travel or housing.

All registration info is available on the website,

[Http://mastergardener.osu.edu/imgc2003](http://mastergardener.osu.edu/imgc2003)

Or call Mike Walton at 1-740-524-4123

**Notify the Macomb MSUE if you are planning to attend.**

## **The Octagardeners Present:**

**The Butterfly Garden as the Landscape**, Thursday May 15, 2003 6:30 to 8:30pm with Gene Rosati of Natural Enhancements Landscape Design, Inc.

**Return to Eden: How to Compose a Garden Journal**, Saturday June 28, 2003 1:00pm to 3:00pm with Iris Lee Underwood of ArtLee Communications.

Lectures will be held at the Washington Twp. Municipal Bldg.

Fund raiser for the Octagarden, see flyers enclosed for more information and registration.

## **GARDEN DAY at MSU**

August 8 2003

All are welcome to attend this day long event at Michigan State University. \$75.00 per person to benefit the DeLapa Horticultural Gardens.

World class lectures and workshops include: Tracy DiSabato-Aust and the Well-designed Mixed Garden and Dr. Art Cameron, Gardening with Ornamental Grasses-Catch the Wave. Willow weaving, planting for birds, make a small fountain, participate in a perennial garden walk.

For more information contact: Sandy Allen at (517)355-8362 or e-mail [allens@msu.edu](mailto:allens@msu.edu)

## **The Evening in the Garden Series**

sponsored by the Oakland MSUE have been announced, and can be viewed online at:

[www.msue.msu.edu/oakland/EITG\\_2003.pdf](http://www.msue.msu.edu/oakland/EITG_2003.pdf)

These educational workshops will begin in May, and take place at the MSU Tollgate Education Center in Novi.

You will find the registration information, and class descriptions and dates at the site above.

## **Volunteer Screening Process to Expand to all MSUE Youth Programs**

**May 22, 2003 and June 10, 2003**

**6:30 to 9:30**

MSUE is reviewing policies concerning the screening of Extension volunteers who work with youth in its 4-H/Youth Development programs, youth gardening, youth nutrition, Great Lakes Education Program and youth mentoring programs.

If you are a MG volunteer who is working with youth and reporting your volunteer hours to MSUE, you should go through the screening process. The easiest way for you to become a screened volunteer is to attend the Volunteer Screening Training on May 22 or June 10 from 6:30-9:30. You will be asked to provide three references and undergo a criminal background check. Tina Fleming, 4-H Program Educator will be conducting the training. There is no cost to attend and you will receive credit for three educational hours. You must register at least 24 hours ahead of time by calling 4-H Secretary Roberta (586-469-6431)

We realize you may have already gone through a screening process with a school or other group with which you are working. However, MSUE screening is unique to our organization and privacy considerations do not allow screening results to be easily shared.

Come and meet Tina, she will make it fun and informative.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## YARDENERS of St. Clair Shores present:

### **NATIVE PLANT SALE**

Friday, May 9th and Saturday, May 10th 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
(unless sold out prior)

**Selinsky- Green Farmhouse Museum, 22500 11 Mile Rd.  
(behind the St. Clair Shores Library at 11 Mile & Jefferson)**

By using native plants in our own yards, we can create vitally important Michigan habitat areas that will help ensure the continued existence of these native plants and wildlife. You will discover that native plants are easy to grow, beautiful, and attract songbirds and butterflies. This sale has become increasingly popular and plants sell like wildfire so don't miss out!

For a listing of available plants and/or an advance order form, contact MSUE Master Gardener Joyce Janicki at 586-778-0443 or visit her web site [www.angelfire.com/biz2/earthjoy](http://www.angelfire.com/biz2/earthjoy)

### **10th Annual Garden Tour**

Saturday, August 2, 2003 from 9:00am to 3:00pm – cost \$5.00

To help or for more information contact Marcia Schwarz  
at (586)776-1221 or [marcia\\_schwarz@yahoo.com](mailto:marcia_schwarz@yahoo.com)

### **Fall Plant Exchange**

Saturday, September 27, 2003 9:00am to 11:00am, at St. Clair Shores Library, 11 mile & Jefferson.

What's Growing on" with the Yardeners of SCS on line at [www.stclairshores.net](http://www.stclairshores.net) go to local orgs then Yardeners.



## **MACOMB COUNTY PLANT EXCHANGE**

**June 7, 2003 from 9am to noon.**

To be held in the parking lot of the MSU Extension office located at 21885 Dunham Rd. Clinton Twp., MI 48036. Rain or Shine

Healthy plants, ideas and information will be exchanged and shared. Ongoing presentations provided by the Demonstration Garden Committee. Bring your soil samples to be sent to MSU for only \$9.00.

New this year– donate garden magazines and books to generate funds for the Demo-gardens.

Bring and tell your friends. To help with the event call Sandra or Kim at the office.

## **GOURMET GARDEN SERIES 2003**

*Brought to you by Macomb County MSU Extension Master Gardeners*

Special thanks to **Jim and Susan Keehn** for organizing another extremely successful season of educational lectures. All of the speakers are to be commended for an excellent job.

**Jenny Depa-Karl**

**Susan Keehn**

**Amy Montalto**

**Tim Doppel**

**Karen Auch**

Don't miss the May 7th Seed Exchange at the Mt. Clemens Library beginning and 7:00 pm.



## **AT A GLANCE**

### **MAY 2003**

3- Farmers Market Opens  
Let's Go Gardening Program in area  
Retailers

15 Octagardener Lecture

17- Bikepath workday

22– Travel Tour

### **JUNE 2003**

7- Macomb Co. Plant Exchange

18– Older American Festival

21-22- Grosse Pointe Garden Walk

19,20,21- International MG Conference

23,24,25- Master Gardener Summer  
Conference at MSU

28 Octagardener Lecture

### **JULY 2003**

1-Travel tour

19- Clinton Twp. Bikepath workday

24– Travel tour

### **AUGUST 2003**

8 – Garden Day at MSU Campus

12-17 Armada Fair

MG- Family Picnic (date to be determined)

25 – Fall MG Training begins

24,25,26 Travel Tour

### **SEPTEMBER 2003**

20- Clinton Twp. Bikepath workday

### **NOVEMBER 2003**

12– MG Volunteer Recognition Banquet

TBA-Travel Tour

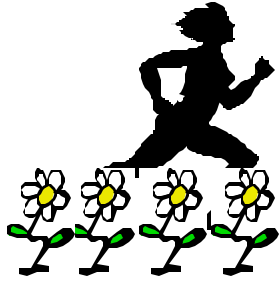
## **MACOMB MASTER GARDENER PHOTO CONTEST**

Remember to keep your camera handy all season long to capture those special moments in your garden. The photos will be displayed at the Volunteer Recognition Banquet in November. We accept, non-published and not matted, mounted or framed, just the 8 x 10 photos.

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## CLINTON RIVER (TWP.) AND SPILLWAY

### BIKEPATH BEAUTIFICATION "YEAR 2003" PROJECT DAYS



SATURDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> Spring Cleaning, Planting & Special "River Day" & "Nautical Coast Clean-Up" events

*FEATURING LAND & WATER FRIENDLY GARDENING EDUCATION*

SATURDAY, JULY 19<sup>TH</sup> Summer Garden & Tree Maintenance

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> Fall Clean Up and Plant Division

Coordinated with the Clinton River Watershed "River Clean Up")

Project Day Schedule for all three project days is as follows:

8:00am (Registration) 8:30am (Education) 9:30-3:30 (Gardening/Clean-Up)

BRING: Weeders, rakes, shovels, gloves, pruners, sunscreen, lunch & a smile!

CONTACT: Sandra Richards @ MSU Ext. (586) 469-5180 for more information.

LOCATED: At the corner of Harper Rd. & Wellington Crescent in Clinton Twp.

## Sterling Heights Evangelical Home

Evangelical Home 14700 Shoreline Drive

Contact Dub Hearon at (586)739-2807 for more information.

Plan for the season:

- Expansion of concrete trail to the north
- Apply bagged mulch for courtyard gardens
- Professional mix soil for raised box beds
- Delivery of wood chips for mulching
- Shred & chip branches in the Nature Area
- Use compost and construction of compost bins in Nature Area
- Fertilize both nature area and courtyard.

### Scheduled Workdays:

Spring May 27 & 29

Summer July 8 & 10

Early Fall September 16 & 18

Late Fall October 14 & 16

Garden Walk & Tea Party June 26 3-7 p.m.

Note from an anonymous volunteer:

I would like to share an experience that I had [at the Evangelical Home]. We don't always know how our efforts affect others, and that's OK, we don't do it for recognition.

One day while I was working at the entrance to the nature trail at the Home, an elderly man came pushing his wife in a wheelchair. She did not act as though she was aware of her surroundings. Her husband and I chatted a moment and they continued on the trail.

When they came back he told me that his wife often moans in her room but when he brings her out to the nature trail she stops moaning. He thanked me very much for all that we do here. I told him there were many other who also volunteer on the trail and that I would pass along his words of thanks. It was a most rewarding moment.

So, even though you may not receive your thanks on the spot, know that your projects are deeply appreciated. I'm proud to be part of such a group.

## Volunteer at the Grosse Pointe Garden Walk

June 21 and June 22  
Saturday and Sunday  
from 10am to 4pm  
Volunteers needed for docents for the gardens.

Get more info about the volunteer opportunity or the garden walk by calling:

Shirley Martin project coordinator,  
at 313-886-4886 or  
"Shirley Martin"  
<martinshirley@hotmail.com>

## Eastpointe's Halfway School House Historical Gardens

15500 Nine Mile Road  
just west of Gratiot in  
Eastpointe.

- Help expand our gardens
- Share some Victorian garden ideas
- Add to our butterfly garden
- Develop a Victorian herb garden

Bed Preparation: April  
26, 10:00am

Perennial Planting:

May 6, 3:30 pm

Annual Planting, May  
13, 3:30 pm

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## MSUE AT THE OCTAGON HOUSE:

A State and National Historical Site, a Local Treasure  
57500 VanDyke Ave, Washington, MI, just north of 26 Mile Road

## THE SPADE HAS BEEN PASSED

Like our plants, we grow. As we begin the fourth year of this Master Gardener Project, we are pleased to announce a new Project Leader: MG Nancy Sisco, 586-779-9087. Martha Nitz will still be one of the gardeners but she wants to devote more energy to her work on the Friends of the Octagon House Board of Directors and to her family. Thank you, Martha, for all you've done to help make the "Octagarden" the lovely place it is today.

If you want to be involved but can't make that meeting, there will be plenty of opportunities throughout the year—call Nancy to let her know of your interests, or sign up in the MG office. We have tentatively set Saturday, May 10, as Spring Cleanup

Workday. Also, Saturday, May 31 will be final cleanup and planting so as to be ready for June 1, Washington Super Sunday. The MG Information Booth will need volunteers on Super Sunday. In addition, summer work will be done through an Adopt-a-Garden program this year to maximize everyone's gardening and vacation schedules.

We are also pleased to announce the ongoing support of Washington/Romeo/Bruce Parks and Rec Department, who will again be exchanging regular lawn mowing of the four acres for use of the House and Grounds for Parks and Rec activities. A growing number of excellent activities are already planned, so watch the local newspapers. Myron's Landscape Direct of Washington provides the actual service; we received many compliments last year on his good work. Also with us for the third year is Mt. Vernon Tree Service, who will make our existing trees look their best and help us prepare for our new Michigan Native Tree Walk. Our professional adviser will continue to be Gene Rosati of Natural Enhancements Landscape Design. Gene and MG Norman Zauel of the Sidewalk Subcommittee are about to present us with a design for a sidewalk along

Van Dyke. If we can pull this off, it will be the answer to many people's prayers to alleviate the huge safety issues along this busy road. We are looking for funding, workers, and lots of community support on this project.

For the first time since the Project began in June, 2000, we are starting the season with some funds for plant purchase already in the bank. This is due to the diligent fundraising efforts of the Octagardeners; to Charlie DiPaola and John Sisco who made garden art for us to sell at St. Michael's Mall and Noel Forest; and to a generous donation from the Romeo Garden Club. We now thank you verbally for your support and hope to give you our thanks in results in the 2003 Octagarden.

And whatever happened to last year's leaders? Happily, we will all still be around, doing Special Projects and showing up for workdays. We hope you will join us as your time permits. There seems to be no end to the ways we can grow!

## Friends of the Octagon House, Inc. (FOTOH) update

Submitted by Andrea DiPaola on behalf of The Friends of the Octagon House, Inc.

(FOTOH) are excited about the many new volunteers who have come forward to help with restoration work and many generous donations. A group of professional contractors/carpenters is donating their labor to take care of several major repair items on the extensive O'House "Honey Do" list.

### WANTED

Vintage door hardware (doorknobs, hinges, etc.) for restoration of the interior doors. Also needed are vintage electric light fixtures. Antique fixtures in good esthetic condition are preferred but reproductions are also welcome.

To make a donation, contact FOTOH Board member  
Charlie DiPaola at 586-781-2353.  
Receipts will be provided for tax purposes.

## OCTAGARDEN CALENDAR

- **Garden Cleanup Day**, Saturday May 10 from 9:00am to 1:00 pm
- **Spring Planting Day**, Saturday May 31 from 9:00am to 1:00 pm
- **Washington Twp. Super Sunday**, June 1, 2003
- **Master Gardener Garden Walk and Tea**, Saturday July 12 from 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Romeo Garden Walk**, Saturday August, 9, 2003 starting at 10:00 am. (fee)

Contact: Nancy Sisco at (586)779-9087 or email Octagarden@aol.com

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## LET'S GO GARDENING!

A RETAIL GARDEN CENTER



**Let's Go Gardening (LGG)** is a unique volunteer activity that puts Master Gardener Volunteers in local garden centers on weekends in May and June, to help reduce the load upon the sales people during the busy season. A monetary donation to the Master Gardener Program is made by the garden center for every hour contributed by the volunteer. This is an information booth type of activity, manual labor is not required. Most garden center hosts provide discounts on purchases made the day you are volunteering.

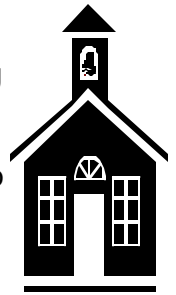
If you are interested in helping with this project, call Kim Ackerman, 2003 Project Coordinator at (586) 469-6661 for more information.

## Coming Soon! Presentation Skills for Master Gardeners

submitted by: Marta Repess'03

This workshop is for Master Gardeners who are ready and willing to share their knowledge with groups. The goal of the workshop is to get as comfortable speaking to groups as we are chatting with another gardener at a plant sale.

We will cover the process of arranging a speaking engagement, developing a topic, presentation skills, using equipment and how to deal with the jitters and butterflies in the stomach. You will get to practice your developing skills and get feedback to help you share your knowledge and enthusiasm for gardening. Contact Marta at (248)652-2464 or e-mail [martarepess@tm.net](mailto:martarepess@tm.net)



## A NEW SEASON AT THE DEMO GARDEN

We have many goals this year at the Demonstration Garden. Our first goal will be to remove the plants and make new hard-scape to surround the planting beds. The second will be to replant each bed with new varieties of plants.

If you are interested in working on a project that is out in front and catches the eye of everyone who enters the rear entrance of the Extension building come join us. - Our work schedules are flexible and we have a lot of fun.

Come join us on our first Intro/Work Meeting on May 6, 6:30 p.m.

Bring your own tools.

Hope to see a lot of new faces.

If you need more information contact Janet Donovan at 586-786-5549 or at

[patrickjdonovan@comcast.net](mailto:patrickjdonovan@comcast.net).

## On June 18, 2003 the Macomb County Board of Commissioners will be hosting the Annual Seniors Festival.

Held at the Freedom Hill County Park off 16 Mile and Schoenherr in Sterling Heights, this day long event draws thousands of people each year. The focus of the festival is to highlight services made available to the community through the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. From health screening and nutrition to legal assistance and community services departments from all county tax-based programs will be represented.

The MSU Extension has been asked to help develop the festival theme of "Flower Power" and we could use your help. We will be provided with a large tent and hope to fill it with flowers as well as educational information related to environmental conservation. Demonstrations on Container Gardening, Yard Care to Preserve Water Quality, Composting,

Gardening with Youth, Butterfly Gardening, Native Plant Use, Nutrition from the Garden, Horticulture Therapy, Community Beautification Gardening Projects and more.

We are looking for volunteers to:

- help develop displays
- do demonstrations through out the day
- provide information booth expertise
- organize volunteers (for our tent)
- organize the tent on the day of the event
- artists
- offer an info booth display for the organization that I work with
- More

Contact Sandra or Kim if you are interested in helping with this event.

# PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

## **New and Improved.....STATE MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER**

You can subscribe to get the new and glossy State Newsletter made available from our state office.

Published quarterly it serves as a link to all MSU Extension Master Gardeners throughout Michigan.

Articles or art may be submitted by any Michigan Master Gardener

Copy Deadlines: Summer - March 10, Fall- June 10, Winter - September 10, Spring-December 10

Publisher: Laurie Joos, MSU Master Gardener Editor: Mary McLellan, State Master Gardener Coordinator

\$10 - One year subscription

\$18 - Two year subscription

Mail:

Name, Address City Zip and phone number and

Check made payable to MSU to:

Michigan State University

Master Gardener

422 Plant and Soil Sciences

East Lansing, MI 48824-1325

MSU Extension Publications can be ordered directly from MSU Bulletin Office by calling (517)355-0240 or on-line at

[Http://ceenet.msue.msu.edu/bulletin/ctlgmast.html](http://ceenet.msue.msu.edu/bulletin/ctlgmast.html)

**E2886 PEST ALERT: Emerald Ash Borer – An Unwanted Hitchhiker;** Is a full color tri-fold flyer showing signs and symptoms of EAB. These are available from the office or contact the bulk order office at MSU by calling (517)353-6740.

Also available from the office is a wallet- sized EAB identifier. Stop by to pick one up .

## **LAWN MOWER AVAILABLE FOR PROJECT USE**

Just a reminder for the upcoming season. We have a (like-new) electric lawn mower for use with your Master Gardener Project thanks to Gerri Carrick. Contact Sandra or Kim at the office if you would like to use the mower for your MG volunteer project. It is light weight for easy transport, and ideal for small spaces.

## **DECORATIVE STONES FOR SALE**

If you attended the MG volunteer banquet this past November you received a palm-sized stone as a table favor. I still have some available to sell. Only \$3.00 to benefit the Master Gardener Program. Stop by the Extension Office to get one or two!

You are invited to visit the:

Michigan Master Gardener Shopping Mall web site:

<http://www.msue.msu.edu/mastergardener/>

See pictures of all of the MG merchandise that is available from the state MG office along with an order form you can print off and mail in.

Use your Visa or MasterCard to order your merchandise.

## **Master Gardener Manual *Supplement***

These can still be ordered from MSU for a cost of \$15.00.

Note: The supplement came with the 2002 manual. Call Sandra at 586-469-6440 to request an order form if your manual is from 2001 or before.

## **Crop Advisory Team (CAT) Alerts**

You can read current issues of the CAT Alert at the integrated pest management web site <http://www.msue.msu.edu/ipm>

The Crop Advisory Team (CAT) Alerts offers year around publishing and e-mail delivery. The CAT Alert newsletter is your connection to the experts at M.S.U. During the busy growing season you receive timely pest management information based on current conditions. Then throughout fall and winter you receive integrated crop management updated from M.S.U. departments like Botany and Plant Pathology, Crop and Soil Sciences and Entomology, and Horticulture. Members of the Crop Advisory Teams are Extension field staff and faculty representing more than seven departments. There is a separate team for CAT Alert editions: fruit, vegetable, field crop, and landscape and greenhouse. Each team meets weekly through conference phone calls during the growing season to discuss pest and crop status. Field agents report on current pest problems and request advisory articles. The resulting information comes to you in the CAT Alert newsletter.

These subjects are covered in all editions: preventing insect, disease, and nematode injury; weed management and fertilizer recommendations; pesticides and other pest management recommendations; pesticide regulations and registration status such as emergency registrations; rodent and other vertebrate control; weather conditions; growing degree days, and production implications.

For a subscription information contact Joy Landis, CAT Alerts editor, by e-mail [catalert@msue.msu.edu](mailto:catalert@msue.msu.edu) or by telephone at 517/353-4951.

**Emerald ash borer: Early detection is important**  
Dave Roberts,  
MSUE Southeast Region  
Excerpt CAT Alert 3-21-03

Last summer and fall, we received numerous inquiries regarding treatments of trees and specifically which trees might be saved. Because it was difficult to keep up with these numerous inquiries, I developed a "Stages of Decline" for guiding the public on my web site ([www.msue.msu.edu/reg\\_se/roberts](http://www.msue.msu.edu/reg_se/roberts)). These stages ranged from Stage 1, virtually healthy, to Stage 5, virtually dead. At that time, many of us believed that trees exhibiting decline up to Stage 3, representing 40 to 50 percent decline or canopy loss, could be saved by insecticide treatments. Because of results from last summer/fall treatments, we now believe that trees beyond 10 to 20 percent decline (probably) cannot be saved. This is due to rapid tree decline and the fact that there is generally far more tunneling beneath the bark by emerald ash borer (EAB) larvae than is visible in crown dieback. This extensive tunneling and disruption to the cambial tissues (those that transport water and nutrient) undoubtedly impedes the translocation of chemical treatments.

**Preventative treatments and early detection**  
Two questions that ash owners need to ask themselves if they would like to save their ashes are: 1) can my tree(s) be saved? (Is it sufficiently healthy to be saved?), and 2) if my tree can be saved, am I willing to invest in treatments year after year for many years to ensure survival. Remember, we are not certain at this time that treatments will be sufficiently efficacious to save ash trees from the EAB. Many studies are planned for the coming season and we will keep you apprised of the results. Recommendations for treatments that might be effective are summarized on my web site.

Of utmost importance, if trees are to be saved, treatments need to be applied as preventative applications (before infestation) to healthy trees or as "curative" applications (after infestation) to trees exhibiting no more than 10 to 20 percent canopy loss. We suspect that the less the infestation, the greater the chances of saving particular trees.

### **Those who hesitate may lose their ash**

Another important factor in these determinations is to realize that trees advance from healthy to be-

yond salvage very quickly. In some cases during 2002, trees were rated and advanced in decline by as much as 30 to 40 percent in just a couple months. Hence, many trees would have passed from salvageable to beyond salvage very quickly. The most rapid decline, whether noticeable or not, would occur during the larval feeding period from July through the fall. Still, trees that may have appeared OK last fall may be beyond salvage this spring.

### **Woodpeckers as early detectors**

One of my observations during the winter of 2001-02, even before the insect was identified as the emerald ash borer and as the culprit of the ash decline in SE Michigan, was that many affected trees were being visited regularly by woodpeckers, primarily the downy and hairy woodpeckers. I could simply drive down streets and determine which trees were infested and which trees were in an advanced state of decline. This woodpecker activity is summarized with photographs on my web site. Please consider that these birds will not necessarily visit all EAB-infested ashes.

During this past winter, I again correlated intense woodpecker activity with declining trees. In a number of instances, the EAB had moved into new neighborhoods last summer and the first sign of their presence was woodpecker activity this winter. Remember, EAB adults deposit eggs and larvae develop and cause severe damage during one season -- the adults do not emerge and create the telltale D-shaped exit hole until the following year. Hence, external symptoms in trees often lag behind extensive, internal damage performed by "invisible" larvae (no exit holes).

### **Spring treatments**

Insecticides applied in the spring will probably work best on trees with little or no borer damage. We do not yet know if trees already damaged by borers will benefit from insecticide treatments in the spring, or at what point trees are too damaged to recover. It is unlikely that systemic insecticides applied as trunk injections, soil drenches or soil injections will move very well in trees with extensive tunneling injury. Trees with more than 20 percent canopy dieback usually have extensive damage that will be difficult to overcome, even if the trees are protected from

further attack by trunk and foliage sprays. We will be conducting more tests this spring and summer to see how well (1) trunk injections in the spring, (2) soil injections in spring, and (3) trunk and foliage sprays in spring and early summer, work.

We will be testing the same kind of strategies used for a closely related insect, the bronze birch borer.

We will treat ash trees with:

- 1) A soil-injected, or soil-drenched systemic insecticide, over the root system in April (imidacloprid)
- 2) Systemic insecticides injected into the trunk in May or June (imidacloprid and bidrin), or
- 3) Contact insecticides sprayed over the foliage, trunks and limbs on June 1 and July 1 to protect trees from the adult beetles that we expect will be active from late May to early August (cyfluthrin, bifenthrin, carbaryl or acephate). Adult emergence information will be reported weekly in spring issues of the Landscape CAT Alert (order at: <http://www.msue.msu.edu/ipm/landCAT.htm>).

Arborists and landscapers usually do a much better job of treating trees (especially large trees) with insecticide than homeowners do, and homeowners cannot make trunk injections of imidacloprid or bidrin on their own. However, if a homeowner prefers to make insecticide treatments themselves, they can purchase most of the insecticides listed above as the products in Table 1.

Imidacloprid should be applied to the root zone of ash trees in April because it takes some time to be absorbed by the roots and moved up to the foliage. The label says, "translocation delay can take up to 60 days." For emerald ash borer, we want the imidacloprid to be there in the soil in late April when the tree starts to move water and nutrients up to the branches. Imidacloprid drenches can be applied by spraying the insecticide over the tree roots in the area inside the tree canopy drip-line. Bayer recommends that you apply most of the spray within ten feet of the trunk. Then water the insecticide into the soil immediately after spraying by running a lawn sprinkler long enough so that a can or bucket fills to a height of one inch. We have also been asked

# MASTER GARDENER NEWS

about what happens if a homeowner uses Bayer Advanced Lawn Season-long Grub Control (imidacloprid) or the new Grub-Ex containing imidacloprid (last year the Grub-Ex active ingredient was halfenozide) on their lawn, including under ash trees, for grubs. These products are not labeled for tree and shrub pests and will not work well for borers when applied for grubs because the area under your ash tree will only receive about 1/10 of the amount needed for borer control.

Trunk and foliage sprays can be applied to small trees with hand-pump sprayers, or garden-hose spray attachments. Wear gloves, long pants, a long sleeve shirt, shoes and socks when applying any insecticide. Avoid getting spray mist on your skin or breathing it. Be sure to follow all label directions and do not mix insecticides at concentrations higher than the rate on the label.

## Cultural practices and sanitation

Ash trees in areas where the borer is active should be watered during dry spells to avoid drought stress. Also, the removal of infested trees is desirable if it is feasible. Next spring, adult emerald ash borers will be emerging from infested trees. The removal of infested trees this winter and early spring before the adults emerge will help reduce the population. Trees must be chipped to pieces less than one inch long, de-barked, or burned to prevent beetles from emerging. Just cutting the trees and stacking the logs as firewood will not kill the beetles. If trees are going to be removed, cutting and chipping them before May 1 is desirable to prevent adults from emerging. Cut ash logs and branches can be taken to one of the marshalling yards listed below for disposal at no cost.

## Marshalling yards

The following locations are now open for business to receive ash tree materials for disposal at no cost to the parties delivering the wood. There are a total of four locations available with their hours included. Additional sites will be shared as they come on line. The MDA website will be updated with this information as well.

Mid Michigan Recycling  
24935 21 Mile Road  
Macomb, MI 48042  
Hours: Mon - Fri 8 to 5

Asplundh Tree Expert Co, Plymouth Industries Yard  
13101 Eckles Road  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
Hours: Mon - Fri 8 to 5

City of Pontiac Sanitation Division  
575 Collier Road  
Pontiac, MI 48326  
Hours: Mon - Fri 9 to 4

City of Westland  
Department of Public Service  
37137 Marquette  
Westland MI 48185  
Hours: Mon - Fri 7 to 5

### Resources:

#### USDA Forest Service:

[www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/eab/index.html](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/eab/index.html)

Michigan Department of Agriculture: [www.michigan.gov/mda](http://www.michigan.gov/mda)

Michigan State University:  
[www.msue.msu.edu/reg\\_se/roberts/ash/index.html](http://www.msue.msu.edu/reg_se/roberts/ash/index.html)

Imidacloprid  
Bayer Advanced Garden  
Soil drench with 1 oz per Tree and  
Shrub Insect Control inch of tree  
circumference

Bidrin Not for homeowners

Cyfluthrin Bayer Advanced Garden  
Trunk and foliage spray

Multi-Insect Killer-Carbaryl  
Sevin Bug Killer

Trunk and foliage spray Concentrate,  
others

Acephate  
Orthene Systemic Insect Trunk and  
foliage spray  
Control, others

Bifenthrin  
Not for homeowners

### Presbyterian Village

Both Presbyterian Villages in Macomb County, East at 23 Mile in Chesterfield and Peace on 15 Mile in Clinton Twp. are seeking Master Gardener volunteers to help direct them in their landscaping plans. These projects can be accomplished on your schedule. Adopt a site by calling David Miller at East at (586)725-6030 or Janet Johnson at (586)790-4500.



TROY GARDEN CLUB BRANCH, Mary Armstrong, Publicity, Phone: (248) 952-1586

### "Hops Are Not Just for Beer"

The May meeting of the TROY GARDEN CLUB will be held on May 14, 2003 from noon till 3 o'clock PM. Rex Halfpenny, the owner of Michigan Beer Guide, will present history, growing, propagation and use of hops. He will provide information about how to use hops medicinally, ornamentally and for beer making. The TROY GARDEN CLUB meets at the Big Beaver United Methodist Church located at 3753 John R Road in Troy. The church is located just south of Wattles Road on the west side of the street. Refreshments will be served at 12 o'clock. Visitors are welcome at the Club's programs. There is a three dollar guest donation. For more information call Barb at (248) 952-5938. Reservations are not required.

### COOL WEBSITES!

2003 Plant Awards All-America Rose Selections (AARS) promotes exceptional roses. This year's winners are Cherry Parfait, Eureka, Hot Cocoa, and Whisper. The AARS web site includes a list of public rose gardens, and trial gardens, searchable by state.  
<http://www.rose.org/>

The American Ivy Society's 2003 pick is Hedera helix 'Golden Ingot,' a variegated, easy to grow, non-invasive ivy.  
<http://www.ivy.org/index.html>

The Perennial Plant Association selected its plant of the year, Leucanthemum 'Becky.' This Shasta daisy has strong stems, a long season of bloom, and is an excellent cutting flower.  
<http://www.perennialplant.org/pppy/03ppy.htm>

## MACOMB MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

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### HOTLINE

Master Gardener (586)469-5063  
MWF 9-4

Toll-free calling for the following communities:  
Center Line, Warren (586)979-7020  
Armada, Romeo (586)752-4506  
Memphis, Richmond (586)727-3175  
Office hours: 8:30 – 5:00 Monday through Friday  
[www.msue.msu.edu/macomb/](http://www.msue.msu.edu/macomb/)

The Macomb Master Gardener Newsletter is a publication of the MSU Extension of Macomb County. It is automatically sent to active MG's. Articles from MG Volunteers are always welcome but will be subject to editing.

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